

# Combat Airlifter

## READY WARRIORS

Pages 8-11



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

(Right) U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Jonathan Huber, 19th SFS NCO in charge of security forces training, instructs Airmen in proper room clearing techniques at Little Rock Air Force Base on July 26. First-term Airmen coming to Little Rock AFB as their initial duty station are the primary people going through the augmentee program to increase the number of warriors ready to respond to contingencies as well as to support base-wide events.



### **41ST AS: MOST OUTSTANDING**

### **AIRLIFT SQUADRON IN AMC**

The 41st Airlift Squadron was awarded the 2018 General Joseph Smith Trophy for being the most outstanding airlift squadron in Air Mobility Command last year.

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### **FROM INTEL TO AIR CREW: C-130H**

### **NAVIGATOR MEETS LIFELONG GOAL**

One Airman from the 154th Training Squadron at Little Rock Air Force Base set and stuck to his dream of achieving what he always wanted – to be a flyer.

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### **LEGAL BLOTTER**

The 19th Airlift Wing Office of the Staff Judge Advocate has released second quarter courts-martial, non-judicial punishments and involuntary discharges.

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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DANA J. CABLE

The 41st Airlift Squadron was awarded the 2018 General Joseph Smith Trophy for being the most outstanding airlift squadron in Air Mobility Command last year. The 41st AS has been an integral part of the combat airlift mission at Little Rock Air Force Base for over a decade, providing aggressive combat airlift — anywhere, anytime.

# 41st AS: Most outstanding Airlift Squadron in AMC

**By Airman 1st Class Jayden Ford**

*19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

The 41st Airlift Squadron was awarded the 2018 General Joseph Smith Trophy for being the most outstanding airlift squadron in Air Mobility Command last year.

The squadron led the largest wing exercises in a decade, delivered the most prevalent overseas airdrop in 5 years, and had the lowest C-130J mishap rate for eight years.

These award-winning efforts came about in part because of the culture surrounding the squadron.

“It’s the culture of the unit — excellence,” said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jonathan Esses, 41st AS interim commander. “Your best is never good enough, and you want your best to get better. You’re always working to do more.”

The honor of receiving the trophy did not come without challenges, especially while the squadron was deployed for

over a quarter of the year.

“There’s always fog and confusion in war,” Esses said. “The enemy always gets a vote in what you do, especially in Afghanistan. There’s the risk of aircraft damage or injury to personnel.”

Despite these obstacles, the Airmen from the 41st AS found a way to persevere and come out victorious.

**See Outstanding, 6**

## EDITORIAL POLICY

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# COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK



**NAME AND RANK**

Master Sgt. James Perdicaris

**UNIT**

19th Airlift Wing Inspector General

**DUTY TITLE**

Wing inspection team manager

**HOMETOWN**

Jacksonville

**TIME IN SERVICE**

17 years

**TIME AT LITTLE ROCK**

9 years

**GOALS**

Achieve Project Management

Professional Certification

**HOBBIES**

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**SELECTED AND HOW DO THEY**

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# From intel to air crew: C-130H navigator meets lifelong goal

**By Master Sgt. Jessica Condit**  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Setting goals and objectives for the different stages of your life and career often helps you accomplish the seemingly impossible. Whether long or short-term, reaching a goal gives one a sense of accomplishment and entices you to push forward with new achievements in mind.

One Airman, from the 154th Training Squadron at Little Rock Air Force Base set and stuck to his dream of achieving what he always wanted...to be a flyer. Capt. Luis Hencker, a 154th TRS C-130H navigator, arrived at the 189th Airlift Wing after transferring from the Puerto Rico Air National Guard. His dream of flying was coming to fruition right before his eyes as he came to the wing to hone his C-130H navigator skills and learn to instruct others.

"I noticed Capt Hencker's work ethic right away," said Col. Dean Martin, the 189th AW commander. "The way he hit the flight line during his recent Navigator Initial Qualification course and the initiative he took outside of flying as the student duty officer really caught my attention."

Martin spoke with Lt. Col. Norris, the 154th TRS chief navigator, about bringing Hencker on as part of the Warrior team. Quickly taking the steps needed to bring Hencker to the Arkansas Air National Guard, he was able to welcome him with the State Oath. Looking back to where he was and forward to where he is now, Hencker knew he was making the progress he needed to become what he endeavored for.

Hencker knew he wanted to do something great from the time

**See Goal, 7**




PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA CONDIT

Capt. Luis Hencker, centered, poses with his class after graduating flight navigator school at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla.

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We are excited to announce that Little Rock Air Force Base will be approved to sell OCP uniforms on Monday, Aug. 5. There are some strict guidelines:

- Each Airman will need to have a set of orders stating that they are stationed at LRAFB.
- There is a two-set limit per day.
- Please remember that nametapes can take up to 10 days to come in. So ordering nametapes and boots ahead of time will speed up the process.

## Outstanding

Continued from page 2

"All these challenges go into trying to make sure we have the right people in the right place to do the mission that is required," Esses said. "This year we had all the right people in all the right places."

Part of the squadron's culture includes fostering an environment where Airmen are empowered to develop their own competencies, ultimately making a more effective and productive unit.

"What we like to do here is let the Airmen run," said

U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Ronald James, 41st AS superintendent. "We give them borders, but we let them grow themselves with a little bit of help and advice from leadership. We allow them to fail and grow from their failures."

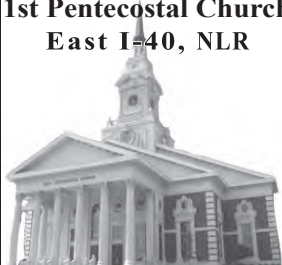
With the trophy secured, the Airmen in the squadron feel a deep sense of pride in being a part of Herk Nation and great accomplishment from all the hard work they put in to make it happen.

"I have an entire squadron of people who worked very hard for this," Esses said. "I am extremely proud of the people who put the energy in to make it the best airlift squadron in AMC."

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Welcome!



# Goal

Continued from page 5

he was a young boy. Growing up in Colombia, he saw better opportunities for himself if he could get a start in the right direction. With a love of flying and a goal to become a pilot, he moved to the United States to attend college at Louisiana State University. During this time he participated in the college's Reserve Officer Training Corps program and learned the practices and discipline of the United States Air Force. After graduation he commissioned into the Air Force as an intelligence officer. Although a successful intelligence officer, he felt that he still had more to give.

"I came to the United States to learn English, go to school and how to be more of an American," said Hencker. "I always wanted to be a fighter pilot. After graduating high school, I found out I could fly for the American Air Force or the Colombian Air Force and I was up for the challenge. I did about 8 years as an intelligence officer. I loved it, but my passion was still flying. I wanted to be part of the action and there was a spark inside of me that made me want to lead from the front."

While attending a SOUTHCOM convention, he was introduced to the Air National Guard. Leadership from the Puerto Rico Air National Guard was in attendance and made a lasting impression on the young officer.

"They asked me, 'do you want to come fly and join the Puerto Rico Air National Guard?' We need pilots, we need navigators, everything," Hencker said. "They were changing their mission completely. I was very interested, so I transitioned from active duty to the Guard and started training."

Due to the recent change in the Puerto Rico Air National Guard's mission, Hencker, along with many other air crew members, were unable to continue their flying status. Because of this, he requested to be sent to Little Rock Air Force Base to continue learning. Searching for the perfect opportunity, he came to the formal training unit and was impressed by the forward environment into which he was introduced.

"That is how the perfect opportunity came up," he said. "I got to follow my dreams and take the opportunity to fly. There's one theme about this wing and the people who are in it. The more I talk to people here, from an airman to a colonel, I see people who love what they do, think of one another and enjoy teaching and being here."

Although Hencker is working on becoming fully qualified as a C-130H navigator, his primary goal is becoming a navigator instructor. Before he can instruct future navigators, he must meet certain criteria. Navigators must have at least 1,000 flying hours to qualify as an instructor. To meet this prerequisite, Hencker plans to keep busy over the next couple of years.

"I have a lot of flying, TDY's and deployments I'm looking forward to so I can get those flying hours," he said. "I want to contribute to the squadron the best way I can. People are here to instruct, so if I don't become an instructor, I'm just taking up space to a certain degree."

According to Hencker, contributing to the mission wherever you are needed is key to being a team player. While he is honored to be in his current position, he is always looking for opportunities to be a more effective leader and Airman.

"If the chance opens up to potentially become a pilot down the line, I may take it," he said. "It's a position of opportunity. I always said I wanted to lead from the cockpit and right now I am wearing this uniform, I have wings and I am part of a crew, which is fantastic. Whatever the wing needs me to be, I'll be."

Hencker describes the navigator responsibility as versatile, stating that during training in Pensacola, a navigator has the opportunity to learn about different systems depending on which aircraft they are assigned to. Between learning defensive systems, weapons systems and navigation the flight navigator is capable of fulfilling many types of roles.

"With all the things I'm learning here, I'm looking forward to becoming an instructor," he said. "I think one of the biggest benefits of the Arkansas Air National Guard is that the 154th is the mecca of knowledge. I am acquiring it from the experts and it's my responsibility to make sure that knowledge shared never stops."

While Hencker is ready to deploy and support the Air Force mission in his new role, he explains that he will never lose sight of what he is here to do: train tactical operators.

"As an intel guy, unless I was doing something different with special forces, I always felt like I was supporting somebody else. Being a navigator is being in charge of the mission," said Hencker. "As instructors, it's our job to ensure everyone knows what our mission is. It'll be my responsibility to ensure that knowledge I'm sharing never stops. We're enablers of the mission and are responsible to make sure everything happens on time. Most importantly though, we are a crew and a team, and as such no one is more important than the other. We all make sure the mission is executed properly and in the best way possible. Otherwise consequences could be fatal."

Hencker also expressed his gratitude for the opportunities he's been given throughout his life. He is proud of what he has become and hopes to leave a lasting impression on his son, Isaac.

"If you want something so badly, work for it. That is my message to my son," he said. "Obstacles are as simple as concrete walls. Choose to stop, or you can go over, around or through them. As a guy who grew up between bullets, looking back, I never expected to be where I am now. I am extremely grateful to have the opportunity to wear this uniform."

The positive outlook is shared both ways. Martin is excited to bring Hencker and his family into the team and share the ethos of the Arkansas Air National Guard with them.

"It's always a great day when Air Guard units are able to work together to take care of people," said Martin. "I am excited that we could help the Hencker family by providing a path for Luis to continue to serve. I do believe he will be a great asset to the 189th mission."

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# READY WARRIORS

## Defenders train first-term Airmen as augmentees

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

The 19th Security Forces Squadron has trained approximately 180 Airmen as security forces augmentees at Little Rock Air Force Base since the course began in December 2018.

First-term Airmen coming to Little Rock AFB as their initial duty station are the primary people going through the augmentee program to increase the number of warriors ready to respond to contingencies as well as to support base-wide events. The week of training follows First Term Airman Course and Deployment Airmen Readiness Training.

“We’re humanizing the badge,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Jonathan Huber, 19th SFS NCO in charge of security forces training. “In the grand scheme of things, the Air Force is not that old, and security forces has changed drastically over my 20 years. It’s really important we grab these brand new Airmen, train them, and showcase some of our history and capabilities.”

Regardless of the fact that first-term Airmen are the primary personnel in this program, each class also has space for higher ranking Airmen to fill leadership roles in the event the augmentees are called upon.

**See Warriors, 11**



(Above) Airmen become certified on proper baton usage during a security forces augmentee course at Little Rock Air Force Base on July 26. Approximately 180 Airmen have been trained as augmentees since the course began in December 2018 to increase the number of warriors ready to respond to contingencies as well as to support base-wide events.

(Background) The 19th Security Forces Squadron trains Airmen to be augmentees after they go through First Term Airman Course and Deployment Airmen Readiness Training at Little Rock Air Force Base. The program teaches them the proper procedures for room clearing, handcuffing and other security forces operations.









(Above) U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Michael Smith, 19th Security Forces Squadron trainer, instructs Airmen on the proper usage of the baton during a security forces augmentee program at Little Rock Air Force Base on July 26. Approximately 180 Airmen have been trained as augmentees since the course began in December 2018 to increase the number of warriors ready to respond to contingencies as well as to support base-wide events.

(Right) Airmen training in the security forces augmentee program practice handcuffing procedures at Little Rock Air Force Base on July 25. The 19th Security Forces Squadron has trained approximately 180 Airmen as security forces augmentees to be additional manpower in case of an emergency.





# Warriors

Continued from page 8

“The more people in your community that feel they know what to do in a crisis, the better,” Huber said. “They can go out to help educate the rest of the Air Force on how to protect society and about security forces in general.”

Since the program began, it has developed into a five-day course with one day in the classroom, two days out at the firing range, and two days of hands-on training.

Security forces history and operational concepts are taught in the classroom. Out at the range, Airmen become qualified on the M4 Carbine rifle and the M9 pistol. During the last two days, they get hands-on training for room clearing, handcuffing and other security forces procedures. By the end of the week, the augmentees receive tactical baton certifications.

“For Air Mobility Command to project strength and deliver hope, the 19th Airlift Wing has to plan for worst-case scenarios,” said U.S. Air Force Maj. Andrew Ferguson, 19th SFS commander. “When these new augmentees return to their units, we hope they bring with them a newfound understanding and appreciation for what Defenders do 365 days a year.”

The ability to project agile Combat Airlift in supporting national security objectives demands that Airmen be prepared to defend one another and assets under any circumstance.

“I believe it’s important for everybody to understand the concept of being a Defender,” said U.S. Air Force Airman Joseph Coates, 19th Civil Engineer Squadron water and fuel system maintenance apprentice and participant in the most recent augmentee course. “Everyone has the idea that joining the military is to serve your country and be part of the fight. This gives you the training and experience necessary to do that, if and when necessary.”



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Jonathan Huber, 19th SFS NCO in charge of security forces training, assists U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Myshilleen Brightwell, 19th Comptroller Squadron financial operations technician, with the proper way to hold handcuffs at Little Rock Air Force Base on July 25. First-term Airmen coming to Little Rock AFB as their initial duty station are the primary people going through the augmentee program to increase the number of warriors ready to respond to contingencies as well as to support base-wide events.

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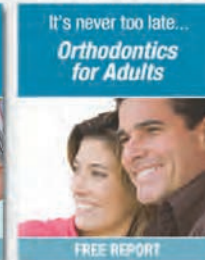
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# Legal Blotter: Second Quarter 2019 Edition

By 19th Airlift Wing Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

## COURTS-MARTIAL

■ An Airman First Class assigned to the 19th Aerospace Medicine Squadron was found guilty of providing alcohol to a minor and wrongful distribution of a Schedule II controlled substance in violation of Articles 92 and 112a, UCMJ. The member was sentenced to 15 days confinement, hard labor without confinement for 15 days, forfeiture of \$1,320.00 pay and reduction to E-1.

## ARTICLE 15 ACTIONS (Non-Judicial Punishment)

■ A Lieutenant Colonel received forfeitures of \$4,499.00 pay for two months and a reprimand for assault consummated by battery and conduct unbecoming an officer in violation of Articles 128 and 133, UCMJ.

■ A Second Lieutenant received forfeitures of \$1,594.00 pay for two months and a reprimand for two failures to obey a general order and fraternization in violation of Articles 92 and 134, UCMJ.

■ A Senior Master Sergeant received a suspended reduction to Master Sergeant, forfeiture of \$1,500.00 pay for two months and a reprimand for willful dereliction of duty in violation of Article 92, UCMJ.

■ A Staff Sergeant assigned to the 19th Civil Engineer Squadron received a suspended reduction to Senior Airman, forfeiture of \$1,332.00 pay and a reprimand for being drunk on duty and driving while intoxicated in violation of Articles 112, and 113, UCMJ.

■ A Senior Airman assigned to the 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received a reduction to Airman First Class and a reprimand for wrongful use of marijuana in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ.

na in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ.

■ A Senior Airman assigned to the 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received a suspended reduction to Airman First Class and forfeiture of \$202.00 pay for failure to go in violation of Article 86, UCMJ.

■ An Airman First Class assigned to the 41st Airlift Squadron received a suspended reduction to Airman and a reprimand for underage drinking in violation of Article 92, UCMJ.

## INVOLUNTARY DISCHARGES

■ A Senior Airman was discharged with a General service characterization for drug abuse.

■ An Airman First Class was discharged with a General service characterization for drug abuse.

■ An Airman First Class was discharged with a General service characterization for drug abuse.

■ An Airman First Class was discharged with an Honorable service characterization for conditions that interfere with military service.

■ An Airman First Class was discharged with an Under Other than Honorable Conditions service characterization for drug abuse.

■ An Airman was discharged with a General service characterization for drug abuse.

■ An Airman was discharged with a General service characterization for a pattern of misconduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

■ An Airman was discharged with an Honorable service characterization for failure to meet minimum fitness standards.

■ An Airman Basic was discharged with a General service characterization for drug abuse.

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### HELP WANTED

**EVERLASTING LIFE** Worship Center in Jacksonville is looking for church musicians/keyboardist or organist, drummer, guitarist & praise/worship leader. Pastor Rodney, (501) 952-9804.

### YARD SALES

**BIG YARD** sale, 5/4, 7 am-2 pm, 135 Maywood, Ward (Merrywood Subdv.) Clothes, home decor, bedding, lots of misc.

**GARAGE SALE**, 5/3 & 4, 8 am-3 pm, 3608 Longstreet St., Jax. Little bit of everything, most items \$5 or less.

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### HELP WANTED

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**FULL-BLOODED MINI-AUSTRALIAN** shepherd, black, 3 mos. old. (501) 266-0127.

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**PARROLETS, COCKATIELS**, blue birds & quackers. (501) 772-0716, Jax.

**JUNK SALE**, (2) 1-story bird cages, (1) 2-story bird cage, \$35 for all. 982-2262.

### AUTOS/ACCESSORIES

**1949 CHEVY** 1/2 Ton truck, 350 engine, excellent condition, rat rod. (501) 606-6617.

**2000 VOLVO** S-70, runs good, cold air, 125,000 miles, clean, \$1,500. TEXT (501) 952-3937, Jax.

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**2006 MAZDA** Miata, 5-spd., garage-kept, new tires, shocks, 69k miles, excellent condition, \$7,500. (501) 454-8491, Cabot.

**2007 DODGE** Megacab, lots of new parts, new tires, 229,000 miles, \$9,000 obo. (501) 743-0986.

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**PRO ANGLER**, 1984 smoker craft aluminum V-bottom 16', 50 hp. Evinrude power trim motor w/trailer, \$1,500. (870) 656-3793, Cabot.

**2016 KEYSTONE** Hideout 26RLS pull behind camper, garage kept, too ill to use, must sell! \$20K obo. (501) 690-8667.

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**5TH WHEEL** trailer hitch, 14,000 lb. capacity, \$400 obo. (501) 286-7268.



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